

Remarks

Request for Reconsideration

Applicants have carefully considered the matters raised by the Examiner in the outstanding Office Action but remain of the position that patentable subject matter is present. Applicants respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's position based on the attached replacement sheets, the amendments to the specification, the amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

Prior Art Rejection

Claims 1 – 4 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka et al. (JP 08118396 A) in view of Sakamaki (JP 08025501). This rejection is respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

After acknowledging that "Tanake et al. do not explicitly teach the arrangement of injection gates spaced apart non-uniformly from one another" (page 3 of the Office Action) Sekamaki was cited for a teaching that "injection gates (3a, Fig. 7) are arranged on a lateral surface and spaced apart angularly non-uniformly from one another in order to provide an accurate circular peripheral face on the belt pulley (English Machined Translation, paragraph [0001])" id.

Setting aside the question of whether these references can be combined at all, it is respectfully noted that neither the figures of Sekamaki nor, to the extent that the machine translation provided can be understood, the accompanying text, provide any such teaching. Instead, what Figure 7 clearly shows are five *equally* spaced apart injection gates 3a. A copy of the full Japanese patent is attached herewith, as it may offer a clearer view of the Figures than the abstract used by the Examiner.

Since neither Sekamaki nor Tanake et al. teach the claimed recitation of injection gates that are space apart angularly non-uniformly from one another, the rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

Specification Amendments

The disclosure had been objected to and the Examiner had suggested certain amendments.

These suggestion are appreciated and have been adopted herein.

Information Disclosure Statement

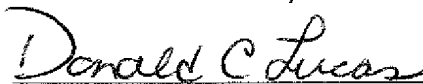
Attached is form PTO SB09A citing the references cited on pages 1 and 2 of the application. Copies of these references are also attached. The fee associated with this Statement is paid concurrently herewith. Should any extensions of time or fees be necessary in order to maintain this Application in pending condition, appropriate requests are hereby made and authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance and formal notification of same is respectfully requested.

While no fees are believed due, should any extensions of time or fees be necessary in order to consider this paper, authorization is given to debit Account # 02-2275.

Respectfully submitted,
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